Application Scr. No. 10/729,576 Supplemental Rule 116 Amendment Attorney Docket No.: 60409CON(50370)

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## <u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 14-20 and 22-38 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 6, EC 2 9 2066 8-10, 14-20 and 22-25 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 27, 30, 31, 34, 35 and 36 have been amended, and claims 43-46 have been added. Accordingly, claims 26-38 and 43-46 will be pending in the application upon entry of the claim amendments presented herein.

Claims 27 and 30 have been amended to correct the term "detection" to "detector", so that the claims now refer to "detector molecule" rather than "detection molecule". Claim 31 has been amended to incorporate the recitation of claim 10 and to depend from claim 27. Claim 34 has been amended to change "detection" to "measuring in view of its dependence from claim 27. Claims 35 and 36 have been amended to be singly dependent from claim 26 in view of the cancellation of claim 2. New claims 43-46, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 26, are directed to additional embodiments of the invention, and correspond to claims 14-17, respectively.

Amendment and cancellation of the claims are not to be construed as acquiescence to any rejections set forth in any previous office action and were done solely to expedite prosecution and allowance of the application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims or similar claims in one or more further patent applications.

## Interview

Applicants take this opportunity to thank Examiner Li for the courteous and helpful telephonic interview on December 29, 2006 with undersigned. During the interview, Examiner Li indicated that claim 26 would be allowable. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 14-20 and 22-25 and have amended claims 27, 30, 34, 35 and 36 to correct certain informalities. Claim 31, which now depends from claim 27, is directed to additional embodiments of the reporter moiety. Likewise, new claims 43-46 are directed to additional embodiments of the invention recited in claims 26 and 27. Applicants submit that claims 26-38 and 43-46 as presented herein are allowable.

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## CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the amendments and remarks presented herein, and allowance of this application with claims 26-38 and 43-46. If a telephone conference would be helpful to expedite further prosecution and allowance of this application, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: December 29, 2006

Respectfully sulprifited,

Peter C. Lauro, Esq. Registration No.: 32,360

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